

Mr. Harry Schwartz
The New York Times

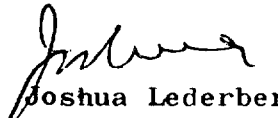
Dear Harry:

I was very pleased to see this.

Perhaps a much smaller issue, but I am a little abashed about my pedagogic skill if I left open the possibility that early environment could influence the heredity of ethnic groups.* I know that I might be hypersensitive about the precision of the vocabulary in my own specialty. Let me point out, at least to you, that there is no issue about influencing the heredity (the genes) of the children. What we are talking about is ~~xxx~~ exclusively about the ~~interaction~~ complicated expression of a given heredity.

Unfortunately, Shockley's militant obscurantism has to provoke this kind of reaction.

All the best


Joshua Lederberg

* except by natural selection, which I did not discuss; Joe also did in an utterly unsupportable fantasy.

HARRY
SCHWARTZ